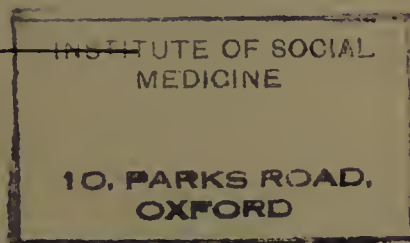


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COUNTY BOROUGH OF DARLINGTON.



REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

1947.

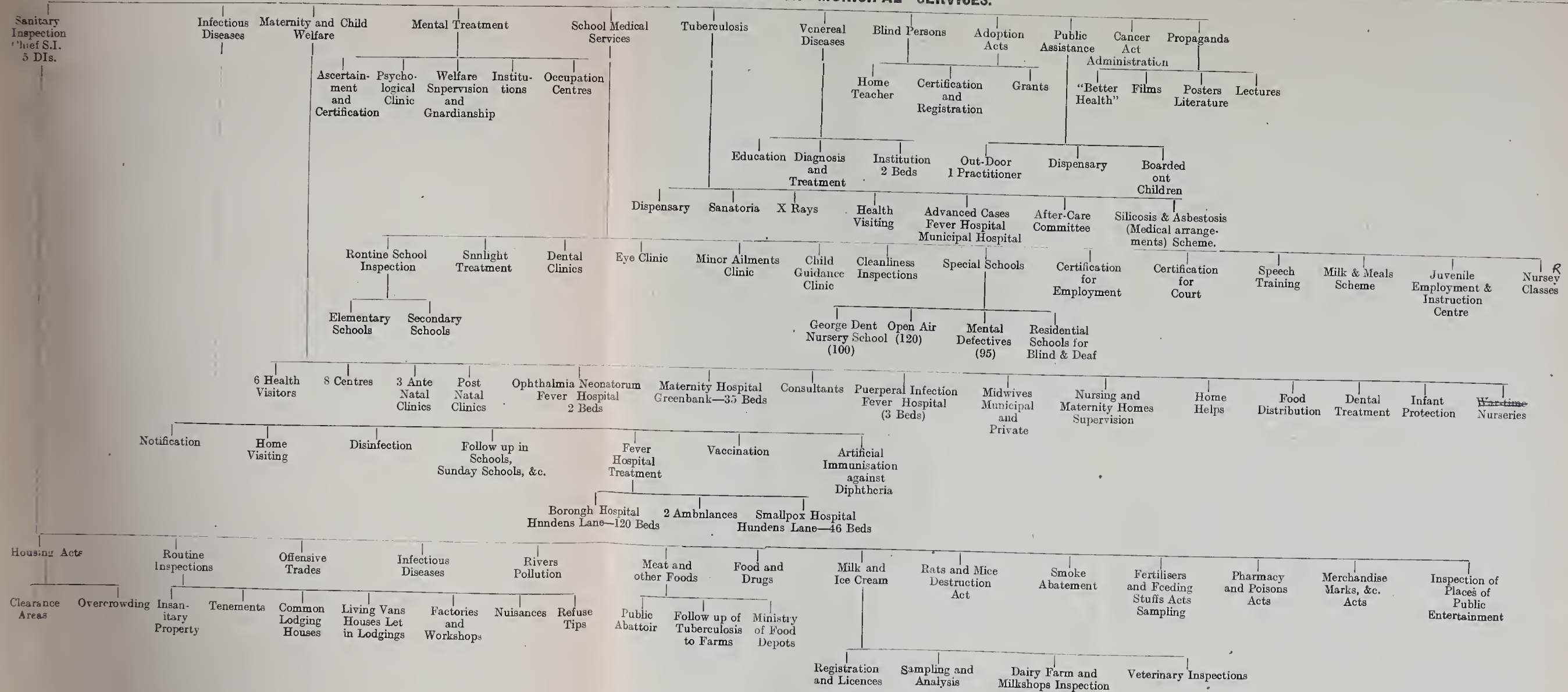
WILLIAM E. ORCHARD, M.D., D.P.H..

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER

MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT OF CORPORATION HOSPITALS.

DARLINGTON CORPORATION—MUNICIPAL SERVICES.



ANNUAL REPORT, 1947.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report on the work of the Health Department for the year 1947.

The year that has past has not been without its anxieties, chief of which must be mentioned—the nation-wide epidemic of Poliomyelitis. Until 1947 this disease has had only a sporadic incidence in this country, but during the Spring and Summer the alarming increase in cases caused extraordinary measures to be taken, and, although Darlington did not come out unscathed, it is fortunate that the number of cases in the town (8) with no deaths, was comparatively small. The surrounding areas in Co. Durham were seriously affected and the Borough Isolation Hospital admitted 19 cases from neighbouring Authorities. The total number of confirmed cases in the Durham County area was 234, with 21 deaths, and the figures for the country as a whole showed that 7,800 cases were notified, with 715 deaths. The physical incapacity which this disease brings in its train is its most dreadful feature, and many cases will require special care for many years. A special word of praise is due to the splendid work of the Matron and Nurses of the Infectious Diseases Hospital during this period, work which demanded every ounce of devotion and which they gave in unstinted measure. I acknowledge gratefully the co-operation received from the Managers of the town's cinemas and, not least, from the Baths' Committee and Mr. Archer, the Baths' Superintendent, for their help in carrying out our recommendations. Finally, in expressing my appreciation of the help received during this time, I wish to place on record my thanks for the assistance given by the Memorial Hospital Massage Staff, without which many cases would, I am sure, have been left with more extensive deformities.

Tuberculosis.—Little change in incidence is recorded. Considerable attention has been paid to improving our methods of diagnosis. The new X-ray set was installed in Greenbank, which has not only given opportunities for more extensive search for contacts, but materially helped in the modern treatment methods now in use. The bed accommodation at the Infectious Diseases Hospital has been increased by the provision of four chalets, in which patients are able to receive treatment under open air conditions. We now have four chalets for men and four for women in use in the grounds of the Infectious Diseases Hospital.

Venereal Diseases. — There has been a fall in the incidence of these diseases. The number of new cases attending for diagnosis has declined from 569 during 1946 to 409. Of the latter number, 32 were patients transferred in from other areas and a total of 222 cases were found to be non-venereal in nature. New cases of Syphilis numbered 87 against 94 in 1946 while for Gonorrhoea the incidence was 100

during 1947 compared with 151 in 1946. Eighteen notifications were received under Regulation 33B, and 9 individuals were traced and examined.

Rehabilitation and Occupational Therapy.—The good work carried out voluntarily by Mr. Wilson under the Tuberculosis After Care Committee proved the need for the appointment of a whole-time Handicraft Instructor to the Corporation and, from a number of candidates for the post Mr. Wilson was appointed. The work covers a wide field and embraces Occupational Therapy in the Corporation Hospitals as well as the training of handicapped persons cared for by other Committees of the Council. From the clinical point of view, the innovation has been most successful, and it is also largely self-supporting since the articles made by the patients are sold at a small profit. The work is to be further extended and a Centre for this type of activity is to be opened.

Domestic Help Service.—The success of this Service is due entirely to the work of Mrs. D. Johnson and the voluntary workers of the Women's Voluntary Service. The Scheme was launched with the valuable help of the ladies from the Central Headquarters in London, to all of whom I would express my thanks. This new Service, now firmly established, is distinct from the Maternity Home Help Service, which has done good work for many years in the town. It provides help in the home for the aged, infirm, bedridden, and for families where, by reason of illness, a crisis in domestic management has arisen.

Day Nursery.—Since the concentration of the Day Nurseries in the North Road Nursery building, this activity of the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee has grown in public popularity. A long waiting list exists and a system of priorities has had to be adopted, in which children whose parents, for various reasons, are unable to provide them with a "normal" home life are given first place. New premises are urgently needed, as the number of places provided (60) is insufficient. Training for the Nursery Nurses' Diploma is carried out in conjunction with the Nursery School Service under the Education Committee.

Maternity Hospital Extensions.—The orderly progression of events which will one day see the release of the whole of Greenbank to full use as a Maternity Hospital has begun. In the meantime, the work carried out under every difficulty of staff and accommodation has been of that high order which we have come to expect and the Matron and Staff are to be congratulated on the splendid service which they render the town under frequently very trying conditions.

Nursing Services.—The Corporation Nursing Services, Health Visitors, Midwives and Hospital Staffs, have done excellent work. By the use of part-time workers, beds have been kept in use, and the Ward Orderlies who are initially untrained in nursing duties, have

become an integral part of the staffing system at the Maternity Hospital. It is pleasing to record that the Corporation Nursing Services now wear the appropriate state uniforms, a factor which contributes in no small measure to "esprit de corps" and the respect and admiration of the townspeople, and, more particularly, their patients.

Diphtheria Immunisation Campaign.—An intensive propaganda campaign was carried out during the year, with displays, Cinema films, lectures to public bodies and the opening of a "propaganda shop." The purchase of a Cinema Projector for 16 mm. films enables full use to be made of the Film Libraries of the Central Office of Information and the Central Council for Health Education.

General Sanitary Measures.—The high standard of work of the Chief Sanitary Inspector and his staff has been fully maintained throughout the year. Particular attention has been paid to Ice Cream, in its manufacture and distribution. The Heat Treatment Regulations of the Ministry of Health have not been applied in their entirety because of lack of equipment, but, by regular inspection and advice, much can be done to improve the cleanliness of the product. The public is still unaware of, or apathetic to, the dangers of this favourite foodstuff which, in the present difficult circumstances, cannot be marketed in the most hygienic manner. It is obvious that these standards will not be achieved until the commodity is prepared in clean factories, by workers who are subject to frequent medical inspection, wrapped in impermeable material in the place of manufacture, and sold from refrigerated containers. Throughout its processing the cream should never be touched by hand, and, in addition, the sterilization of containers and equipment should be efficiently carried out. In the meantime, a system of basic hygienic requirements adapted to the varying conditions under which the product is prepared in the different places of manufacture in the town, has been adopted, and continuous inspection helps to keep this potentially dangerous foodstuff under control.

Anti-Mosquito Measures.—The return of persons from the Forces who had suffered from, or who might be incubating Malaria, led to an investigation into the types of mosquito prevalent in the town. It was discovered that, as would be expected, the South Park Lake was the area in which mosquito-breeding was most extensive, the reeds and stagnation of the water providing ideal breeding grounds. Specimens of mosquito were reported by the Ministry of Health to be carriers of Malaria. The combination of potentially infected persons (the "reservoir" of the disease) and the anopheline mosquitoes (the "carrier") was thus ideal for the return to the days of Dr. Piper, who regularly reported the prevalence of the "ague" in those parts of the town in closest proximity to the river Skerne. An anti-mosquito campaign which was embarked upon, with the co-operation of the Parks Committee, successfully reduced the mosquito population, a campaign which must continue until the mosquito is stamped out altogether or when no potentially infected persons are to be found amongst the town's population.

It is once more a pleasure to record my thanks to you, Ladies and Gentlemen, for your help and support, and to acknowledge the co-operation of the staffs of the various Departments of the Corporation. To the Health Department staff I would express my gratitude for yet another year of loyal and enthusiastic service, the results of which are fully borne out in the statistics contained in the body of the Report which follows.

I have the honour to remain, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

W. E. ORCHARD,

Medical Officer of Health.

STAFF.

Medical Officer of Health, School	William E. Orchard, M.D., D.P.H.
Medical Officer, Chief Tuberculosis Officer, Medical Certifier under Mental Deficiency Acts.	
Deputy Medical Officer of Health, Venereal Diseases Medical Officer.	Donald John Campbell, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Acting Deputy Medical Officer of Health	Frank A. Paul, L.R.C.P. and S., D.P.H. (till 8th January, 1947).
Assistant Medical Officer of Health for Maternity and Child Welfare	Ruth Dearing, M.B., B.Ch., B.Sc., (till 8th April, 1947).
do. do. do. do.	Sabine Rosenfeld, M.B., Vienna (from 1st April, 1947).
Assistant Medical Officer of Health for Tuberculosis and Public Assistance	Frank A. Paul, L.R.C.P. and S., D.P.H. (till 8th January, 1947).
Assistant Medical Officer of Health for Public Assistance and Public Vaccinator	John Fleming Bishop, M.B., Ch.B., C.P.H. (from 1st April, 1947).
Assistant Medical Officer, Public Assistance Committee	C. D. Stone, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.
Temporary Assistant Medical Officer	Arthur Ingham, M.B., Ch.B.
Assistant Medical Officer of Health for Schools	Annabella McGarrity, M.B. Ch.B., D.P.H., D.O.M.S.
do. do. do. do.	Winifred M. Henderson, M.B., Ch.B. (from 21st April, 1947).
School Dental Officer	J. L. Liddell, L.D.S.
Assistant Dental Officer	V. L. L. Hall, L.D.S. (till 30th October, 1947) Arthur Lewis, L.D.S. (from 1st December, 1947)
Radiographer (Temporary)	Miss J. Williamson (from 12th May, 1947)
Public Analyst	C. J. H. Stock, B.Sc., F.I.C.
Chief Sanitary Inspector	A. E. Wade.
Deputy Chief Sanitary Inspector	F. Ward.
Sanitary Inspectors	J. R. White. A. F. Theakston. J. A. H. Brocklebank. S. Daley.
Senior Health Visitor	Miss H. M. McIlwaine, S.C.M., S.R.N.

District Health Visitors and Child Life Protection Officers	... ..	Miss E. H. Fleetham, H.V.C., S.C.M., S.R.N. (till 1st September, 1947). Miss M. Milestone, H.V.C., S.C.M., S.R.N. Mrs. J. L. Copping H.V.C., S.C.M., S.R.N. (from 3rd February, 1947). Miss E. Winch, H.V.C., S.C.M., S.R.N. Miss M. Wilkinson H.V.C., S.C.M., S.R.N. (from 6th August, 1947). Miss F. E. Smith, H.V.C., S.C.M., S.R.N.
Part-time Child Life Protection Officer	... ..	Miss V. I. Smiles.
Tuberculosis Health Visitor	... ..	Miss A. Thornton, H.V.C., S.C.M., S.R.N.
Matron Infectious Diseases and Smallpox Hospitals	... ..	Miss Gaynor L. Pritchard, S.R.N., S.C.M., R.S.F.N.
Matron Maternity Hospital	... ..	Miss Kate I. Kemp, S.R.N., S.C.M.
Superintendent Nurse Municipal Hospital	... ..	Miss A. Moran, S.R.N., S.C.M.
Mental Welfare and Blind Welfare Officer	... ..	Miss E. Black.
Municipal Midwives	... ..	Mrs. A. E. Oakley, S.R.N., S.C.M. (from 11th January, 1947). Mrs. F. R. Hawley, S.C.M. Mrs. I. Wilson, S.C.M. Miss E. Shaw, S.C.M.
Matron of Nursery North Road	... ..	Miss D. S. Owen, S.R.N. till 30th September, 1947). Miss M. Scott Hope, S.R.N. (from 1st November, 1947).
Maternity and Child Welfare Home Helps	... ..	Miss L. Robinson. Mrs. M. Botterill. Mrs. C. E. Rispin. Mrs. M. Hodgkinson (till 11th November, 1947). Mrs. R. M. Muldoon (from 1st January, 1947).
Registrar of Births, &c.	... ..	E. K. Corlett.
Chief Clerk	... ..	E. C. Stainsby (till 15th December, 1947). Hugh R. Kirk (from 15th December, 1947).
Vaccination Officer	... ..	Hugh R. Kirk.

Clerical Staff	...	...	...	...	Miss F. E. Gibbon Miss F. I. Goodwill. Miss D. E. Tones. Miss M. Ellis (from 24th Feb. to 31st Aug., 1947). Miss D. Robinson. Miss G. W. Ruecroft (from 1st Aug., 1947). I. Burnley. D. G. Warde . V. J. Scarre (from 25th February, 1947).
Temporary Clerks	...	...	...	...	H. Evans (till 31st March, 1947). Miss E. Scott (till 19th July, 1947) Miss I. Stockdale.
Messenger Girls	...	...	...	...	Lillie Wanless (till 2nd Novem- ber, 1947).
V.D. Orderly	...	...	...	...	J. T. H. Litton.
Handicraft Instructor	...	...	...	...	W. Wilson (from 15th Sept., 1947)
Home Visitor for Blind	...	...	...	...	C. F. Cooke.
Rodent Operative	...	...	...	...	R. S. Walton

VITAL STATISTICS.

The figures for birth and death-rates are based on our own returns corrected for inward and outward transfers.

During the year ended 31st December, 1947, the number of births assignable to the Borough was 1,721, 843 males and 878 females. Excluding the deaths of 126 non-residents, there were 1042 deaths, 543 males and 499 females including 57 transfers. These figures give a birth-rate of 20.6, and a death-rate of 12.7 per 1,000 of an estimated population of 83,600 compared with 19.6 and 11.9 last year. Figures for England and Wales, birth rate 20.5, death rate 12.0.

The deaths occurred at the following ages :—

Under 1 week	....	23	}	Total	1— 2 years	....	3
1— 2 weeks	....	0			2— 5 "	....	6
2— 3 "	....	7			5—15 "	....	10
3— 4 "	....	3			15—25 "	....	20
1— 3 months	....	12			25—45 "	....	72
3— 6 "	....	7			45—65 "	....	255
6— 9 "	....	7	}	Total	65—75 "	....	281
9—12 "	....	6			75 years and upwards	....	330

Still-births registered, 41 ; Infantile Mortality Rate, 37.7 per 1,000 births.

Infantile Mortality (England & Wales) 41 per 1,000 births.

Illegitimate Infants Born, Males, 41 ; Females, 55 ; Total, 96. Died, 10.

Institutional Deaths :—	Residents.	Non-Residents.	Total.
Municipal Institution	164	10	174
Memorial Hospital	138	89	227
Borough Isolation Hospital	19	7	26
Greenbank Maternity Hospital	9	3	12
Nursing Homes	9	1	10
Institutions outside Borough	32	0	32

Inquests held, 45,

Uncertified Deaths, 28,

Deaths occurred from the following causes :—

WARD	Harrowgate Hill	North Road	Cockerton	Northgate	Pierremont	Central	North-East	Eastbourne	West	South	TOTAL	Inward Transfers	GRAND TOTAL
1 Typhoid and paratyphoid fevers ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
2 Cerebro-spinal fever ...	1	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	3	...	3
3 Scarlet fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
4 Whooping cough ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5 Diphtheria ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	1
6 Tuberculosis of respiratory system ...	4	5	2	4	1	5	4	8	2	2	37	3	40
7 Other forms of tuberculosis ...	2	1	2	...	1	...	...	1	1	2	10	...	10
8 Syphilitic disease ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	1
9 Influenza ...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	2	...	2
10 Measles ...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	2	...	2
11 Acute poliomyelitis and polioencephalitis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
12 Acute infectious encephalitis ...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
13M Cancer of buccal cavity and œsophagus ...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	5	2	7
13P Cancer of uterus ...	1	4	1	1	...	2	1	1	1	3	15	...	15
14 Cancer of stomach and duodenum ...	4	1	2	1	2	...	3	4	2	1	20	...	20
15 Cancer of breast ...	3	1	1	...	1	...	1	2	4	2	15	...	15
16 Cancer of all other sites ...	10	9	4	5	6	5	7	6	8	10	70	10	80
17 Diabetes ...	1	1	1	2	...	...	...	...	1	...	6	...	6
18 Intra-cranial vascular lesions ...	4	2	1	8	7	2	4	7	9	4	48	6	54
19 Heart disease ...	16	8	19	16	18	20	16	18	18	15	164	7	171
20 Other diseases of the circulatory system ...	18	7	20	17	15	14	10	19	18	17	155	3	158
21 Bronchitis... ..	6	12	3	3	7	7	7	7	7	...	59	2	61
22 Pneumonia ...	5	...	4	7	2	6	2	5	3	3	37	2	39
23 Other respiratory diseases ...	...	1	5	...	...	2	2	4	1	1	16	2	18
24 Ulceration of the stomach or duodenum ...	...	...	2	...	...	1	2	...	1	...	6	1	7
25 Diarrhœa (under 2 years of age) ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	2	...	2
26 Appendicitis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
27 Other digestive diseases ...	...	2	3	2	2	2	...	3	3	...	17	1	18
28 Nephritis ...	3	4	2	2	2	3	4	4	1	...	25	1	26
29 Puerperal and post-abortive sepsis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
30 Other maternal causes ...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	1	...	3	...	3
31 Premature birth ...	2	2	1	2	...	2	1	1	...	2	13	...	13
32 Congenital malformations, birth injury, infantile disease ...	5	2	2	2	1	1	1	3	3	...	20	1	21
33 Suicide ...	1	2	...	1	2	1	1	1	...	3	12	2	14
34 Road traffic accidents ...	1	...	2	1	...	2	...	...	...	1	7	2	9
35 Other violent causes ...	...	...	...	...	4	2	...	1	1	1	9	5	14
36 All other causes ...	16	20	18	21	15	23	25	21	16	29	204	6	210
Totals ...	104	85	97	97	87	102	92	119	104	98	985	57	1042

INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

DISEASE.	Borough Cases				Cases removed to and Deaths in Isolation Hospital							
	Total Cases Notified		Total Deaths		From Borough				From Rural and other Districts			
					Cases		Deaths		Cases		Deaths	
	C.	M.	C.	M.	C.	M.	C.	M.	C.	M.	C.	M.
Smallpox ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	80	...	...	...	58	...	...	...	6	27	...	...
Diphtheria	8	...	1	...	8	...	1	...	1	1	...	...
Typhoid and Para-typhoid Fevers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas	11	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	2	...	...	...
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Babies with Mothers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pneumonia	40	...	37	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles	853	...	2	...	8	...	1	...	3	6	...	...
Encephalitis Lethargica	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	66	...	37	...	80	...	11	...	...	1	...	...
Other forms of Tuberculosis	16	...	10	...	2	...	1	...	2	...	1	...
Whooping Cough ...	111	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cerebro-spinal Fever	12	...	3	...	11	...	3	...	2	5	...	...
Acute Poliomyelitis	8	...	...	...	7	...	...	...	18	1	3	...
Dysentery ... ..	...	...	...	...	56	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Conditions ...	57	...	2	...	...	...	2	...	21	21	2	...
Malaria Relapse ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Teterus Neonatorum	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Acute Polio-encephalitis	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...
Totals ...	1273	...	92	...	237	...	19	...	56	63	7	...

MUNICIPAL INSTITUTION (Hospital Section), YARM ROAD :—

	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
In	55	59	3	117
Admitted	238	222	35	495
Discharged	151	134	34	319
Deaths	90	84	0	174
Remaining	52	63	4	119

Rate-aided persons of unsound mind not included above :—

Residential ...	10 Men.	6 Women	Total
Out-relief ...	3 „	9 „	12

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

NOTIFIED BIRTHS :—	Males		Females		Total	
	Leg.	Ill.	Leg.	Ill.	Leg.	Ill.
Live-Births	817	21	864	24	1,681	45
Still-Births	20	0	24	0	44	0
Total	837	21	888	24	1,725	45
By Midwives ... ..	...	402	466	...	868	...
By Doctors ... ..	...	9	9	...	18	...
By Parents ... ..	...	0	0	...	0	...
By Midwives in Institutions	...	437	434	...	871	...
By Doctors in Institutions	...	10	3	...	13	...

	Patients In at	Admitted	Discharged	Deaths	Remaining	Days' Treatment
Greenbank Maternity Hospital	Jan. 1/47, 29	865	859	3	32	11,039

CHILD LIFE PROTECTION.—5 on Register, 8 new, 5 children were returned to parents, 1 returned to Boys Home, 2 to Waifs and Strays Home 1 to Municipal Hospital 4 now on Register, 74 Visits and 133 office interviews. In addition many telephone enquiries were dealt with regarding suitable homes, adoptions, etc.,

CENTRES.—Mothers and babies, attendances, 27,069. Ante-Natals 8,530. 29,331 lbs. Dried milk sold.

DENTAL TREATMENT. Mothers 8; Children under 5 years 26; Total 34. Total attendances, 53; Extractions, 70; Anæsthetics, 24; Fillings, 8; other operations 5.

MATERNITY HOME HELPS.—New Cases, 80. Day's Service, 865½.

DOMESTIC „ „ „ „ 181. „ „ 2967.

MIDWIVES' ACTS.—Emergency calls to Doctors, 210. Inspector's Visits 144.

HEALTH VISITORS :—	First Visits	Re-Visits	Total Visits
Expectant Mothers	335	73	408
Infants under 1 year	1683	3365	5048
Children 1 to 5 years	—	5638	5638
Infectious Diseases	549	21	570
Infant Deaths	36	—	36
Still-Births	23	—	23
Miscellaneous Visits	523	142	665
Maternal Deaths	—	—	—
Illegitimate Children	47	518	565
Adoptions	40	29	69
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—

QUEEN'S NURSES' ASSOCIATION :—

Maternity Cases	163	2627	2790
Midwifery Cases	218	3567	3785
Pneumonia	2	31	33
Acute Primary Pneumonia	7	71	78
Children under 5 years	87	368	455
Ante-Natal Cases	—	1393	1393
Post-Natal Cases	—	311	311

VACCINATION :—

Births Registered, 1794; Successful Vaccinations, 464; Conscientious Objections, 1172; Insusceptibility, 18; Died before Vaccination under 1 year, 66.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.—686 under 5 years, 325 at 5—15 years. Total since 1935, 11,718.

VENEREAL DISEASES CLINIC.

	Darlington			Other Authorities	
	Males	Females		Males	Females
Suspected Venereal Diseases—New Cases	141	108	....	107	53
Non-Venereal Diseases	65	73	....	51	33
Total Attendances of all persons	2,327	1,494	....	1,099	1,012
In-patient Days	42	97	....	159	68

TUBERCULOSIS.

Sanatoria	In			Admitted			Discharged			Deaths			Remaining		
	M.	F.	C.	M.	F.	C.	M.	F.	C.	M.	F.	C.	M.	F.	C.
Stannington	—	—	3	—	—	2	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	3
Papworth Hall	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Barrowmore Hall	—	—	—	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Borough Isolation Hospital	7	8	—	50	30	1	42	28	1	6	2	—	9	8	—
Memorial Hospital	—	—	1	—	—	2	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Municipal Institution	2	2	1	3	3	—	4	2	1	1	—	—	—	3	—
Poole Sanatorium	9	10	—	13	10	—	13	14	—	1	—	—	8	6	—
Kirbymoorside	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	2
St. Vincent, Orthopædic Hospital	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2

Apparatus provided for one neecessitous patient as follows :—1 Caliper.

Railway Warrants issued—81.

Dispensary Attendances—1,788.

Bus Warrants issued—38.

Doctors' Home Visits—34.

X-ray examinations—

Memorial Hospital	1
Dr. Fothergill	343
Dr. Glass	104
Health Centre	345

793

Ultra Violet Rays—4.

DOMICILIARY VISITS :—

Health Visitors

First Visits.

Re-visits.

Total.

Queen's Nurses' Association

Total

109

1,457

1,566

3

87

90

112

1,544

1,656

Municipal Nursery.

North Road

Average Attendances.
On Roll. Day.

70.5

45

REPORT OF THE CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR, 1947.

Analysis of Inspections, 1947.

Under Public Health Act	...	...	...	4,504
Corporation Houses	...	...	...	52
Living Vans	...	...	...	124
Verminous premises	...	...	...	172
Yards and Courts	...	...	...	37
Common Lodging House	...	...	...	46
Under Housing Act	...	...	...	382
Tenement houses	...	...	...	23
Overcrowding	...	...	...	135
Interviews with Owners and Builders	1,540

Total inspections of Housing Conditions	7,015
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Abattoir	595
Markets	193
Fruit warehouses	1
Bakehouses	133
Other Food Premises	570
Cowsheds	...	...	...	...	67
Dairies and Milkshops	...	...	...	...	191
Ice Cream Premises	...	...	...	...	438
Sampling	...	...	...	...	397
Fish Friers	...	...	...	...	180
Cafes	...	...	...	...	17
Schools	...	...	...	...	7

Inspections with reference to Food	2,789
------------------------------------	-------

Drain testing	...	...	...	...	17
Rats	...	...	...	...	31
Infectious diseases	...	...	...	...	164
Contacts of infectious diseases	...	...	...	...	45
Transferable deaths	...	...	...	...	11
Factories and workplaces	...	...	...	...	271
Piggeries	...	...	...	...	125
Allotments—re pig-killing	...	...	...	...	15
Pharmacy and Poisons Acts	...	...	...	...	99
Boundary Commission	...	...	...	...	13
Offensive trades	...	...	...	...	87
Smoke Abatement	...	...	...	...	4
Music Hall	...	...	...	...	6
Tips	...	...	...	...	14
Police Court	...	...	...	...	13
Complaints	...	...	...	...	929
Public Conveniences	...	...	...	...	7
Ineffective visits	...	...	...	...	702
Air Raid Shelters	...	...	...	...	25
Swimming baths	...	...	...	...	15

2,593

1. Housing conditions	...	7,015
2. Food	... ..	2,789
3. Other inspections	...	2,593
		<hr/>
		12,397
		<hr/>

Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

During the year 109 samples were taken and sent for analysis by the Public Analyst. These comprised :—

67 informal samples of milk	}	83
6 formal samples		
5 in course of delivery samples		
5 appeal to cow samples		
3 Malt Vinegar		
4 Fish cakes		
3 coffee		
3 gelatine		
2 baking powder		
1 meat paste		
1 shrimp paste		
1 fish paste		
1 pork sausage meat		
6 beef sausage		
1 Savol fat extender.		

Of the above, 19 samples of milk failed to comply with the presumptive standard laid down by the Sale of Milk Regulations, 1939. Eleven informal samples were below standard in fat, 1 informal sample was below standard in non-fatty solids, but its freezing point of -542°C . showed the deficiency to be due to natural causes rather than to adulteration, 4 samples taken in course of delivery from the producer to the vendor showed deficiency in fat, 2 formal samples showed added water and one appeal to cow sample was below standard in fat.

Details of Samples below Standard :—

Sample	N.F.S.	Fat	F.P. Hortvet	Deficiency		Remarks.
28	8.87%	2.75%	—	8.4% in fat	) From Vendor	Warning given to Vendor to ensure adequate mixing of milk prior to bottling
Informal						
29	8.64%	2.60%	—	13.4% " "		
Informal						
31	8.64%	2.90%	—	3.4% " "		
Informal						
28A	8.61%	4.20%	—	) Genuine from same Vendor.		
Formal						
29A	8.85%	3.40%	—)		
Formal)		
31A	8.85%	3.80%	—)		
Formal)		
41	8.82%	2.75%	—	8.4% in fat	) Warning given to ensure adequate mixing prior to bottling.	
Informal						
46	9.02%	2.90%	—	3.4% in fat		
Informal						

Sample	N.F.S.	Fat	F.P. Hortvet	Deficiency	Remarks
48 Informal	8.46%	2.60%	-538° C.	13.4% in fat	) From Vendor.
48A In course of delivery from producer to Vendor.	8.76%	2.70%	—	10% " "	) ) ) From Producer.))
48B Appeal to Cow	8.76%	3%	—	Just up to standard	) ) From Producer
48C Appeal to Cow.	8.57%	2.57%	—	14.34% in fat	) from amounts of 10, 10 and 9 gal- lons respectively.
48D Appeal to Cow	8.97%	3.15%	—	Up to stan- dard	) Average deficiency for the 29 gallons 2.898% deficiency in fat. Warned to apportion strip- pings evenly.)))
57 Informal	8.84%	2.75%	—	8.4% in fat	) From Producer
57A In course of delivery Formal	8.92%	2.95%	—	1.67% in fat	) who stated the cows were mach- ine milked but not stripped. Unfor- tunately this is not illegal.) Samples taken in June.))
58 Informal	9.07%	2.70%	—	10% in fat)
59 Informal	8.94%	2.40%	—	20% in fat)
65 Informal	8.43%	3.55%	-542° C.	0.83% in N.F.S.	) Below standard) but not adulter-) ated.
69 Informal	7.92%	2.70%	-478° C.	6.9% added water	) Investigation did) not discover cause) for the added) water in the in-) formal sample.) Warning given.)
69A Formal	8.77%	3.00%	—	3.4% in fat Just up to standard)
69B Formal	8.98%	3.05%	—	Just up to standard)
90 Informal	8.02%	3.65%	-485° C.	9.8% added water	) From Vendor.)
90A Formal	7.87%	3.70%	-464° C.	9.9% added water)
90B Formal	7.98%	3.80%	-479° C.	8.5% added water	) From Vendor.)
90C In course of delivery.	8.05%	3.70%	-485° C.	7.7% added water)
90D In course of delivery	7.92%	3.65%	-475° C.	9.3% added water	) From Producer))
90E Appeal to Cow	8.73%	4.10%	-546° C.	Genuine	) From Producer
90F Appeal to Cow	8.72%	3.75%	-544° C.	Genuine	) Fined £5 + £3 3s) costs.)

A sample of baking powder was slightly deficient, due to deterioration and no action was taken.

One informal and one formal sample of beef sausage were deficient in meat content to the extent of 37% and 10% respectively. Proceedings were taken and the defendant fined £3 and £4 16s 6d costs.

Another formal sample of beef sausage was deficient in meat content 1.7%. Warning was given as it came within the limit of variation.

Milk (Special Designations) Orders, 1936-1946.

Thirty-two licences were in force under the Orders as :

Accredited—11 Producers, 3 Bottling.

Tuberculin Tested—7 Bottling, 2 Dealer.

Pasteurised—1 Pasteuriser, 1 Bottling, 7 Dealers.

One hundred and twenty-seven samples sold or produced under Special Designations were taken and sent for Bacteriological Examination.

These comprised Pasteurised—74, Tuberculin Tested Pasteurised—17, Tuberculin Tested—16 and Accredited—20.

Of the above, 68 Pasteurised, 15 Tuberculin Tested Pasteurised, 12 Tuberculin Tested and 13 Accredited passed the relevant tests.

1 Pasteurised failed in the Phosphatase Test.

5 Pasteurised failed in the Methylene Blue Test.

1 Tuberculin Tested Pasteurised failed in the Methylene Blue Test.

3 Tuberculin Tested failed in the test for Bacillus Coli.

2 Tuberculin Tested failed in the Methylene Blue and B. Coli tests.

5 Accredited failed in the test for B. Coli.

1 Accredited failed in the Methylene Blue and B. Coli tests.

1 Accredited failed in the Methylene Blue Test only.

In each case investigations were made and warnings given.

Thirty-nine of the Pasteurised samples above-mentioned were of milk supplied to Schools; one only failed to comply.

Bacteriological Examination of Undesignated Milk.

Seventy-six samples of undesignated milk were taken and submitted for Bacteriological Examination. There is no statutory standard of cleanliness applicable to other than Designated Milk. We, in this Department, however, endeavour to ensure that Undesignated Milk shall reach a degree of cleanliness comparable with Accredited Milk and/or the standard formally applicable to Grade "A", i.e., the sample should not give a total count of more than 100,000 organisms per ML. with a negative reaction for the presence of Bacillus Coli. in not less than two of three tubes of 0.01 ML. after 48 hours incubation at 37°C. We also require that the sample shall pass the Methylene

Blue Test as for Accredited Milk. This is a fairly high standard for Undesignated Milk and one that cannot be enforced, but when serious deviations from this standard are found to exist, letters of warning are sent to those concerned. If the lapse occurs in milk produced within the Borough, visits are made to the premises of production, warnings and advice are given; if the milk originates from outside the Borough, letters are sent to the Health Department for the area concerned in addition to warnings from this Department.

Forty-six of the above-mentioned samples complied with the degree of cleanliness referred to; 34 of these samples were of a high order of cleanliness. Thirty samples were not up to this standard; of these, 2 samples failed to pass the Methylene Blue Test only, 3 samples failed to pass the Methylene Blue and B. Coli. Tests, 4 samples gave a too high count and failed in the B. Coli. Test, 9 samples failed in the B. Coli. Test only, 4 samples gave a too high count and failed in the Methylene Blue Test, 1 sample gave a too high count but passed other tests and 7 samples gave a too high count and failed the Methylene Blue and B. Coli. Tests.

The highest counts obtained were 120,000, 132,000, 145,000, 188,000, 230,000, 304,000, 312,000, 380,000, 440,000, 460,000, 472,000, 480,000, 800,000 and 1,500,000 (14 samples).

These high counts occurred during the summer months, coinciding with hay and corn harvest time, and suggest laxity and insufficient care in production during these periods.

The continued sale of milk showing so high a degree of uncleanness could have an adverse effect upon the health of the community and the knowledge of its discovery and cessation must be the reward for the work and expense entailed in procuring the samples.

Ice Cream.

There were 16 manufacturers and 89 vendors of ice cream on the register.

Twenty-eight samples were taken during August and September, 11 of which were placed in Grade I, 5 in Grade II, 7 in Grade III and 5 in Grade IV of the Provisional Grade suggested by the Ministry of Health. This Grade provides that samples not decolourising in the Methylene Blue Test in $4\frac{1}{2}$ hours or more shall be Grade I, those not decolourising in $2\frac{1}{2}$ hours and up to 4 hours Grade II, those not decolourising in $\frac{1}{2}$ an hour up to 2 hours Grade III and those decolourising at 0 hours Grade IV. Therefore 16 samples were classed as satisfactory whilst 12 were not satisfactory.

All premises and shops were visited regularly and it is gratifying to know that all manufacturers are endeavouring to obtain the necessary new appliances that will be required to comply with the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) etc. Regulations, 1947, of the Ministry of Health.

The samples falling into Grades III and IV were first samples and upon receipt of the reports, visits were made by the Sanitary Inspectors and instructions and advice were given. When further samples were taken, only 3 failed to merit a higher grade.

Biological Examination of Milk.

Thirty samples of milk were taken for Biological Test for the detection of Tubercle Bacilli. All the samples gave negative results.

Factories Act, 1937.

The number of factories without mechanical power (including bakehouses) on the register at the 31st December, 1947, was 283 and the number of factories with mechanical power was 259.

Bakers and Confectioners	...	...	...	78
Dressmakers, Millinery, etc.	...	...	...	24
Boot Repairing	...	...	...	43
Joiners, Cabinet Makers, Sawmills	...	...	...	61
Tailors	...	...	...	21
Plumbers	...	...	...	18
Blacksmiths, etc.	...	...	...	8
Painters	...	...	...	8
Upholsterers	...	...	...	11
Unclassified	...	...	...	270
				<hr/>
				542
				<hr/>

During the year, 373 inspections have been made and the following is a list of the defects found and dealt with:—

Defects	Found.	Remedied during 1947.
Want of Cleanliness	8	7
Ineffective drainage of floors	1	1
Sanitary Conveniences:—		
Insufficient	3	4
Unsuitable or defective	13	12
Not separate for sexes	1	1
Other offences	7	6
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	33	31
	<hr/>	<hr/>

Four notices of defects to be dealt with under the Factory Act were received from the Factory Inspector and in each case the premises were inspected, notices served where necessary and the defects in all cases remedied.

Outworkers.

Three lists containing the names of 3 Outworkers were received and 3 inspections of the premises of such Outworkers were made,

RATS AND MICE (DESTRUCTION) ACT, 1919.

Organisation.

Recommended and approved by Ministry of Food.

One full-time Rodent Operative.

Additional four men supplied by the Borough Surveyor for 6 to 8 weeks every six months for treatment of sewers. These men work under the direction of the Rodent Operative and under his control.

Methods.

Recommended and approved by the Ministry.

Bait bases—Sausage Rusk and bread.

Poisons—Zinc Phosphide and Arseneous Oxide.

Two to four days prebaiting, one day poison-baiting, one day checking. Post-baiting is carried out.

Sewers treatments.

1947—May to July—Maintenance Treatment—Estimated kill—483 rats.

Surface Infestations.

Corporation properties.

Hundens Tip) — Treated 3 times per year or as required.

Haughton Tip) —

Salvage Depot — Treated 4 times per year or as required.

Infestations of rats and mice in all Corporation properties, including schools, are dealt with as they arise.

Business premises.

Charge 3/- per hour plus cost of materials.

Occupiers co-operate and report infestations to this office when they receive prompt attention. In no case has it been necessary to take formal action under the Act.

Private dwellings:

Charge — 2/6 for prebaiting and surveying.

2/6 for poison-baiting.

Complete treatment 5/-.

Occupiers willingly report infestations and where infestations have been brought to the notice of occupiers, they have willingly signed Order Forms to have the infestations dealt with. No formal action has been taken under the Act.

Block Control.

When investigating complaints or dealing with infestations, the Rodent Operative surveys the area concerned and the survey is recorded. Infestations found during surveys are dealt with as already stated.

General.

The estimated kill during 1947 was: Rats—2,283; Mice—306.

i.e., 9 Major infestations (over 20 rats) — 585 rats.

298 Minor infestations (under 20 rats)—1,215 rats, 306 mice.

1 maintenance treatment of sewers — 483 rats.

INSPECTION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

During the year 1947 the total number of animals slaughtered was 23,376, including 562 emergencies.

This number is made up of 883 cows, 3,106 other bovines, 11,451 sheep, 442 pigs and 7,494 calves.

The total weight of food condemned and destroyed was 59 tons 5 cwts. 4 stones 9 lbs., of which 22 tons 1 cwt. 3 stones 7 lbs. were on account of Tuberculosis. All the above was surrendered voluntarily.

Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

		Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	...	3,106	883	7,494	11,451	442
Number Inspected	...	3,106	883	7,494	11,451	442

All Diseases except Tuberculosis

Whole carcasses condemned	10	16	95	20	1
Carcases in which some part or organ was condemned	1,040	305	32	550	45
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	33.81%	36.35%	1.69%	4.97%	10.40%

Tuberculosis Only.

Whole carcasses condemned	14	54	12	—	2
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	315	290	3	—	20
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	10.58%	38.95%	.20%	—	4.97%

In conclusion, I wish to thank all the members of the staff, including the Medical Officer of Health, for the very valuable co-operation given so freely at all times.

A. E. WADE,
Chief Sanitary Inspector.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

Maternity Hospital.—The Maternity Hospital at Greenbank had a record year during which there were 865 admissions. It is hoped in the near future to increase the number of maternity beds to meet the growing demand.

The total number of attendances of mothers and infants at the Maternity and Child Welfare Centres was 27,069, which is an increase compared with the previous year.

Illegitimate Children born in 1947:

There were 45 illegitimate births notified during 1947 and one un-notified birth. In addition the Health Visitors visited 13 illegitimate children of married women. There was one still-born illegitimate child of a married woman. Of the 5 children who died under one year 4 died from prematurity and one from intercranial haemorrhage. Six children were adopted, five in Darlington and one out of town by arrangement with an Adoption Society. Four children were legitimised by marriage.

Of the 189 illegitimate children who remained on the Register at the end of the year, 98 were cared for by their own mothers, 58 by grandparents or other relatives and 29 attended the Municipal Day Nursery or the George Dent Nursery School. One child was with foster parents, two others in homes where they were to be adopted and one child was a patient in the Municipal Hospital.

The majority of the illegitimate children were well cared for. 22 whose care was bad and 29 whose care was indifferent were visited as frequently as possible by the Health Visitors. Of the 22, 6 households had either 2 or 3 illegitimate children of the same mother. Of the 29 whose care was indifferent 9 households had more than one illegitimate child to the same mother.

Illegitimate Children, 1947.

1—Notified as illegitimate	....	....	....	....	45
2—Un-notified as illegitimate but found as such on routine visiting	....	....	....	....	13
Stillbirths (included in 1 and 2)	....	....	....	....	1
Deaths under 1 year	....	....	....	....	5
Transfers out (adopted)	....	....	....	....	1
Adopted in town	....	....	....	....	5
Legitimate by marriage of parents	....	....	....	....	4

Premature Infants.—The following Table gives the information about premature Infants :—

Number of premature babies notified who were born—

(i)	(a)	At home....	....	....	....	....	—	32
	(b)	In hospital	....	....	....	....	—	54
(ii)	The number of those born at home—							
	(a)	who were nursed entirely at home	....	....	....	....	—	23
	(b)	who died during the first 24 hours	....	....	....	....	—	2
	(c)	who survived at the end of one month	....	....	....	....	—	23
(iii)	The number of those born in hospital—							
	(a)	who died during the first 24 hours	....	....	....	....	—	3
	(b)	who survived at the end of one month	....	....	....	....	—	50

Home.—Of the children (32) born at home 23 were nursed entirely at home. Two deaths during the first 24 hours were due to prematurity. Seven other children died before attaining the age of one month, six from prematurity at the 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 14th and 15th day and one from Haematemesis on the 5th day.

Hospital.—54 premature babies were born. There were three deaths during the first 24 hours from prematurity. One other died at 23 days from prematurity.

Scabies and Verminous Heads.—There were 85 cases of scabies and 1,211 cases of verminous heads. The treatment with benzyl benzoate has given excellent results in the former condition, and even the worst cases are generally cured after three applications. Very satisfactory results have been obtained in the latter conditions by the use of lethane oil.

WATER SUPPLY AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL, ETC.

Water Supply.—The following information has been kindly provided by the Water Engineer, G. S. Short, Esq., M.A., L.L.B., A.M.Inst.C.E., P.A.S.I., to whom I am indebted :—

The supply is pumped from the River Tees, is treated with alumina ferric and with sodium aluminate and is passed to the settling tanks where it remains for a period of about six hours. Water is then pumped through pressure filters and after filtration is treated with chlorine and ammonia. To counteract the possibility of plumbo solvency lime is added before the water leaves the works.

During the year bacteriological examinations of the raw filtered and chlorinated water were made on 52 occasions and on tap water from different areas of the town on 53 occasions.

Details of the total annual water consumption for the last nine years are given below and it will be seen that the consumption for the year ending 31st March, 1947 has decreased slightly. This decrease is due to a falling off in the consumption of the large industrial consumers but the evidence of the latter part of the year was that the decrease was only temporary.

<i>Year ending 31st March.</i>						<i>Gallons pumped.</i>
1939	....	....	....	....	....	1,286,590,000
1940	....	....	....	....	....	1,363,100,000
1941	....	....	....	....	....	1,593,520,000
1942	....	....	....	....	....	1,670,190,000
1943	....	....	....	....	....	1,726,350,000
1944	....	....	....	....	....	1,863,230,000
1945	....	....	....	....	....	1,861,210,000
1946	....	....	....	....	....	1,899,870,000
1947	....	....	....	....	....	1,877,610,000

The scheme for the provision of an additional battery of seven pressure filters and for the installation of additional chemical plant has been approved by the Ministry of Health and arrangements have been made for a commencement to be made on this work in April, 1948.

So far as quantity of water is concerned, that there are ample supplies available in the River Tees is shown by the following records taken when the River was flowing at its lowest recorded level in 1938.

	<i>Galls. per day.</i>
Water pumped by Tees Valley Water Board ...	6,500,000
Water pumped by Darlington Corporation ...	4,700,000
Flowing over Weir	22,000,000
Total	33,200,000

The water is pumped direct to the town to a covered service reservoir at Harrowgate Hill. The capacity of this Reservoir is 7 million gallons.

In order to guard against the possibility of typhoid infection it has been and will be the regular practice to examine all employees of the Water Undertaking before they commence work.

The approximate total number of dwellinghouses within the borough is 23,970 and the whole of these are supplied from the water mains direct into the houses except 75 which are served by standpipes, that is out of a total population of approximately 83,600, 260 are served by standpipe.

Rivers and Streams.—The slow running River Skerne enters the town at its east boundary at Haughton-le-Skerne, from whence it flows west and then south. It is crossed by 12 road bridges and is the natural channel for floodwater in the case of heavy rain.

The condition of the River Skerne was better than during the six previous years and was particularly good during the period May to October inclusive when the stretch of river below the Weir in the South Park carried a stock of coarse fish. Analysis were made through the year and it was found that the quality of the water varies considerably and appears to be governed by the amount of suspended solid matter present; the suspended solid matter is highest when the river is in flood. Watch is continued to see that pollution does not take place in the town itself.

Sewage and Sewage Disposal.—The policy of the Council to introduce storm water relief sewers and the partially separate system of drainage continues and approval in principle has been given by the Ministry of Health to the construction of a new main outfall sewer from the centre of the town to the Sewage Disposal Works. The work of constructing this sewer will commence as soon as a "starting date" is awarded by the Ministry.

The whole of the sewage is treated at the Stressholme Sewage Works where one half of the flow receives preliminary treatment in sedimentation tanks and is then treated by broad irrigation on the Stressholme Farm. The remainder is dealt with by the Sewage Purification Works completed in 1942 which consist of detritus and sedimentation tanks, percolation filters, humus and storm water tanks. A satisfactory effluent is being produced at the new works, being slightly better than the effluent from the land which has been greatly improved by the relief it has been possible to give as a consequence of the construction of the Purification Works.

A scheme for the provision of four additional percolating filters to deal with the flow from new industrial works in the town has been prepared and has received the approval of the Ministry of Health. Work will commence on the construction of these filters in March, 1948.

Swimming Baths.—The Public Swimming Baths situate in Gladstone Street consist of two pools. The First Class Bath, 100 ft. x 40 ft. 6 ins. of approximately 120,000 gal. capacity, was used by more than 65,000 bathers during the summer season. This bath is covered during winter to form a spacious Public Hall, accommodating an audience up to 1,600. The Second Class Pool, open all the year, was used by about 50,000 people—capacity 100,000 gals., 99 ft. x 48 ft. 6 in.

Every precaution possible is taken to ensure germ free water, sparkling, clear and attractive, maintained at a mean temperature of 75°F. Continuous circulation, aeration and chlorination completed every four hours ensures this and affords also economies in heating and water supply. Accurate dosage of coagulant (sodium aluminate), reagent (Light sodium carbonate) and gaseous chlorine is ensured by exact checking and testing.

Commencing in June samples from each pool have been submitted each week to the County Analyst for bacteriological examination and in every case the water has been found up to drinking water standards.

Orthotolide tests for chlorinity and phenol red or bromo-thymal blue tests for alkalinity have been made not less than twice per day in each pool. The total number of tests of this kind and for temperature numbered over 2,800 in the year. With less than ten under the required standard all these tests were satisfactory.

At 3 p.m. on 4th July, the Medical Officer of Health requested super chlorination to be effected in the pools and chlorination dosage was doubled, this being carried on until October.

On the 7th August a system of sessions limiting the number of persons in the pools at any one time, removal of cubicle curtains and disinfection of cubicles after each time of use was put into operation and continued until October.

From July to October 4 day chart of tests made were submitted to the Medical Officer of Health.

Disposal of the Dead.—Three Cemeteries with a total area of 100 acres situated in different parts of the town provide adequate facilities for burial. These Cemeteries are properly planned and well kept. The Crematorium at the West Cemetery is equipped with the latest type of Gas Furnace and is used increasingly each year. It is owned and operated by the Darlington Cremation Society.

